

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01

SAJ-01 AID-05 IGA-01 /049 W
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FM USLO PEKING

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3461

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, EAID, ETRD, MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO PEKING

REF: A) HONG KONG 3066; B) RABAT 1501

1. WE HAVE NOT DISCERNED ANY WIDENING OF PRC-MOROCCAN RELATIONS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI TO PEK
ING.

IF ANYTHING, THE VISIT WOULD SEEM TO SIGNIFY AN IMPROVEMENT IN RELATI
ONS

IF, AS REFTELS SURMISE, THERE WERE PROBLEMS DUE TO SLOW PRC AID IMPLE
-
MENTATION (THE CHINESE ARE GENERALLY SLOW IN THIS RESPECT).

2. IN OUR VIEW, PROTOCOL FOR LARAKI'S VISIT WAS CORRECT THROUGHOUT.
LARAKI WAS MET AND FETED ON ARRIVAL BY FOREIGN MINISTER CH'IAO
KUAN-HUA, AND AT BOTH CH'IAO'S OPENING BANQUET AND LARAKI'S FAREWELL
RECEPTION VICE MINISTERS OF TRADE, AID AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS WERE ON
HAND.

IN LARAKI'S ONE MEETING WITH CH'IAO FOR WHICH A LIST OF MAJOR
PARTICIPANTS WAS RELEASED (NCNA MARCH 16), VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS HO YING AND LOWER RANKING OFFICIALS WHOSE POSITIONS CORRES-
PONDED TO THOSE OF LARAKI'S ENTOURAGE TOOK PART. ALSO, AS IS NORMAL F
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OR

SUCH VISITS, LARAKI MET WITH PREMIER CHOU BEFORE DEPARTING PEKING.

3. WE AGREE THAT THE SIGNING OF THE AID PROTOCOL WAS
MERELY A PRO FORMA RATIFICATION OF ARRANGEMENTS PREVIOUSLY AGREED
UPON, BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ATTENDANCE AT THE BUSINESS TALKS
BY ONLY WORKING-LEVEL REPS OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN TRADE AND
ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES SIGNIFIED ANY DOWNPLAYING
OF THE MOROCCANS. IT DOES SUGGEST THAT ADDITIONAL AID GRANTS
WERE NOT ON THE AGENDA, BUT THE MOROCCANS MAY NOT HAVE BEEN
SEEKING ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING
ON THE LOCAL DIPLOMATIC CIRCUIT INDICATING MOROCCAN
DISSATISFACTION WITH THE VISIT.
BUSH

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